

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please **ADD** a section entitled “CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS” starting at page 1, line 4, and including a **NEW PARAGRAPH** as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/164,670, filed October 1, 1998, for “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COLLECTING AND APPLYING VENDING MACHINE DEMAND INFORMATION”, which issued on November 27, 2001, as U.S. Patent No. 6,324,520, which is a continuation-in-part of:

(i) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/012,163, filed January 22, 1998, for “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY VENDING A COMBINATION OF PRODUCTS”, which issued on May 28, 2002, as U.S. Patent No. 6,397,193, which is a continuation-in-part of (a) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/947,798, filed October 9, 1997, for “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DYNAMICALLY MANAGING VENDING MACHINE INVENTORY PRICES”, and (b) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/920,116, filed August 26, 1997, for “METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING SUPPLEMENTARY PRODUCT SALES AT A POINT-OF-SALE TERMINAL”, which issued on September 12, 2000, as U.S. Patent No. 6,119,099, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/822,709, filed March 21, 1997, for “SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING LOTTERY TICKET TRANSACTIONS UTILIZING POINT-OF-SALE TERMINALS”, which issued on July 21, 2001, as U.S. Patent No. 6,267,670; and

(ii) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/947,798, filed October 9, 1997, for “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DYNAMICALLY MANAGING VENDING MACHINE INVENTORY PRICES”;

the contents of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein.